

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1-5 and 7 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for synchronization adaptation of asynchronous digital data streams comprising the steps of:

providing a first digital data stream (~~PCM\_IN~~) at a first sample rate (~~CLK\_1~~);

inputting said first digital data stream (~~PCM\_IN~~) to a sample rate conversion means (~~SRC~~);

supplying data output from said sample rate conversion means (~~SRC~~) to a processing element (~~BUFFER~~);

storing said supplied data into said processing element (~~BUFFER~~); and

outputting said data stored in said processing element as a second digital data stream (~~PCM\_OUT~~) at a second sample rate (~~CLK\_2~~), with said first and said second sample rates (~~CLK\_1~~, ~~CLK\_2~~) being different from each other;

~~characterized by the further steps of~~

detecting a state (~~BUFFER\_STATUS~~) of said processing element (~~BUFFER~~); ~~and~~

controlling said sample rate conversion means (~~SRC~~) dependent on the detected state of said processing element; and

reducing and/or increasing a number of data samples contained in the data output by said sample rate conversion means and supplied to said processing means is randomized in time within the data stream, such that a position within a group where a sample is to be removed and/or to be added is randomly selected.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for synchronization adaptation of asynchronous digital data streams according to claim 1, wherein

~~characterized in that~~

said state (~~BUU~~FFER\_STATUS) of said processing element (~~BUU~~FFER) represents the amount of data currently stored in said processing element.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for synchronization adaptation of asynchronous digital data streams ~~according to claim 2, characterized in that said detection step comprises~~ comprising the steps of:

providing a first digital data stream at a first sample rate;

inputting said first digital data stream to a sample rate conversion means;

supplying data output from said sample rate conversion means to a processing element;

storing said supplied data into said processing element;

outputting said data stored in said processing element as a second digital data stream at a second sample rate, with said first and said second sample rates being different from each other;

detecting a state of said processing element said state of said processing element represents the amount of data currently stored in said processing element;

controlling said sample rate conversion means dependent on the detected state of said processing element;

comparing a current amount of data stored in said processing element with a lower limit (~~LL~~) and an upper limit (~~UL~~) of respective admissible data amounts stored in said processing element[,]; and

setting said state (~~BUFFER\_STATUS~~) of said process element to a first value (~~FULL~~) in case the detected actual amount of stored data exceeds the upper limit (~~UL~~), to a second value (~~EMPTY~~) in case the detected actual amount of stored data is below the lower limit (~~LL~~), and to a third value (~~OK~~) in case the detected actual amount of stored data is found to be between the lower limit (~~LL~~) and the upper limit (~~UL~~).

4. (Currently Amended) A method for synchronization adaptation of asynchronous digital data streams according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ said controlling step controls said sample rate conversion means to be enabled if said detected state (~~BUFFER\_STATUS~~) has said first value (~~FULL~~) or said second (~~EMPTY~~) value, and to be disabled if said detected state has said third value (~~OK~~).

5. (Currently Amended) A method for synchronization adaptation of asynchronous digital data streams according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ said controlling step comprises the steps of:

reducing the number of data samples contained in the data output by said sample rate conversion means (~~SRC~~) and supplied to said processing means if said state has said first value (~~FULL~~),

increasing the number of data samples contained in the data output by said sample rate conversion means (~~SRC~~) and supplied to said processing means if said state has said second value (~~EMPTY~~), and

leaving the number of data samples contained in the data output by said sample rate conversion means (~~SRC~~) and supplied to said processing means unchanged if said state has said third value (~~OK~~).

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A device for synchronization adaptation of asynchronous digital data stream, comprising:

a sample rate conversion means (~~SRC~~) to which is input a first digital data stream (~~PCM\_IN~~) at a first sample rate (~~CLK\_1~~);

a processing element (~~BUFFER~~) for storing data output from said sample rate conversion means (~~SRC~~), and for outputting said data stored in said processing element as a second digital data stream (~~PCM\_OUT~~) at a second sample rate (~~CLK\_2~~), with said first and said second sample rates (~~CLK\_1~~, ~~CLK\_2~~) being different from each other;

~~characterized by~~

a detection means for detecting a state (~~BUFFER\_STATUS~~) of said processing element (~~BUFFER~~); ~~and~~

a control means for controlling said sample rate conversion means (~~SRC~~) dependent on the detected state of said processing element; and

means for reducing and/or increasing a number of data samples contained in the data output by said sample rate conversion means and supplied to said processing means is randomized in time within the data stream, such that a position within a group where a sample is to be removed and/or to be added is randomly selected.